

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
29 December 2004 (29.12.2004)

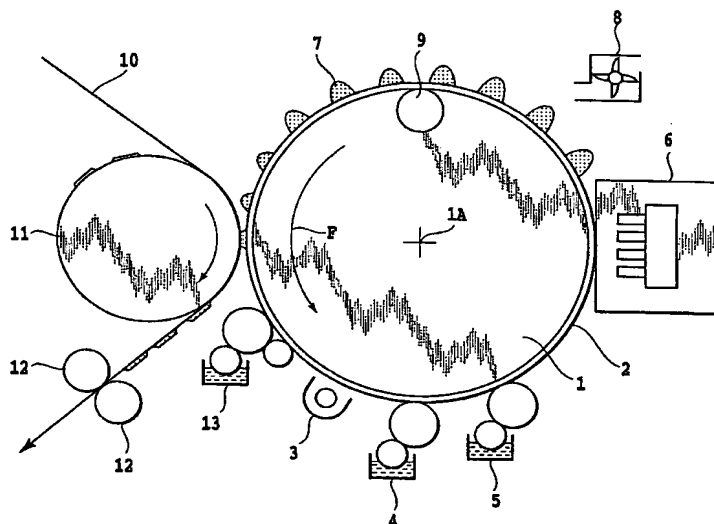
PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/113082 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification?: **B41J 2/005**
- (21) International Application Number:
PCT/JP2004/009090
- (22) International Filing Date: 22 June 2004 (22.06.2004)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
2003-178548 23 June 2003 (23.06.2003) JP
2003-178547 23 June 2003 (23.06.2003) JP
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- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:
— with international search report

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: **IMAGE FORMING METHOD, IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS, INTERMEDIATE TRANSFER BODY, AND METHOD OF MODIFYING SURFACE OF INTERMEDIATE TRANSFER BODY**



(57) Abstract: The invention allows an image printing on a wide range of print media regardless of how much ink the print media absorb, without sacrificing a high printing flexibility of an ink jet printing system. To this end, the image forming method of this invention includes: a process of modifying a surface of an intermediate transfer body by applying energy to the surface; a process of ejecting ink onto the surface-modified intermediate transfer body by using an ink jet printing device; and a process of transferring ink from the intermediate transfer body to a print medium. With this invention, therefore, an ink image can be formed on the intermediate transfer body having a surface layer, without causing bleeding or beading, and then transferred onto the print medium in good condition.

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— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

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